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ABSTRACT

This final report describes the activities and outcomes of OPTICA (Our Path Together Initiating Cultural Access) programs. For each program an information sheet indicates the goal, total participation, status of the goal, and activities of the program. Programs included: (1) Hands On: ASL Creative Story Telling, a program that used children's books to introduce translating, to develop visual locations, and to show usage of classifiers, role shifting, visual description, gesture, mime, visual vernacular, and poetry; (2) Kids ASL Theater Camp, a program in which three teachers worked with children with and without deafness to teach them juggling, mime, body sox movement, and a skit; (3) media classes that developed a televised community forum called Ear News and produced programs on how to use an interpreter, accessible community events, and self help; (4) $1 Movie Nights that showed movies relating to individuals with deafness and empowerment; (5) ASL Performers, a program that showcased storytellers using American Sign Language; (6) Total Accommodations Cultural Access Tapes, a program in which students were assigned to produce one 30-second public service announcement; (7) the Opening Doors to Art/Culture/Heritage Options; and (8) the television show: Using an Interpreter: A Consumers Perspective," which reached approximately 280,000 households. (CR)

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OPTICA End of Year Program Evaluation Report

GOAL 1a: Hands On: ASL Creative Storytelling
(formerly the Acting and Production Classes)
TOTAL PARTICIPATION – 49
Criteria/Year III= 60 Status Year to Date = 81% of Goal reached.

EVALUATION:
October 3, 2000 – ASL Acting and Production classes merged and became ASL Storytelling class. The eight participants worked on the story, "Lucy Dove" by Janice Del Negro, and converted the children's book to script form. They then translated the script from English to ASL. Performance was set for Dec. 8th, the last day of our fall semester. Participants continued their work until December 7, 2000.
January 16, 2001 – We decided to continue "Hands-On: ASL Creative Storytelling" class, which utilized a variety of children's books to introduce translating, to develop visual locations, and to show usage of classifiers, role shifting, visual description, gesture, mime, visual vernacular, poetry, etc. The participants had the opportunity to perform storytelling for such monthly events as Museum Fine of Arts' Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens Family Day, and Illuminations' ASL Story Hour, both open to the public. In January, we translated and performed the story of "Lucy Dove." In February, two students worked on translations from English to ASL and performed African American tales. In March, two new people to work on storytelling with Tricia Tusa stories for Illuminations' ASL Story Hour. The students in the class also rehearsed for their showcase performance set for April 20th. Two new mentees rehearsed storytelling for Bayou Bend on April 22nd. We had our first annual mother/daughter celebration April 28 at the MMSC. The performance featured three mother/daughter deaf and hearing teams. 10 students rehearsed diligently for the performance. Their work was showcased at our *Special Bonus Performance* April 20th.

COMMENTS:
The change from Acting and Production to Storytelling yielded a greater number of participants, and was well received by the community. It fostered more emerging artists, and encouraged novices into the performance arena who previously were shy.

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GOAL 1b: Kids' ASL Theater Camp
TOTAL APPLICATION = 11
Criteria/Year III = 60 Status Year to Date = 18% of Goal reached.

EVALUATION

We had three teachers who worked with the kids from 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM. 15 kids registered and called, but 11 kids showed up. After two days, 4 kids didn't show up regularly and got call from their mothers said various things that they couldn't come in. The four kids didn't complete doing the performance in either event. We had a wonderful mix of 7 regulars (4 Deaf and 3 sibling) that stayed for the entire two weeks of Little Hands Theatre Activity. Kathy Weldon taught signing the National Anthem and taught dance; Jackie Kilpatrick taught several different things like juggling, mime, body sox movement and a skit, "The Cricket" from the children book by Arnold Lobel. Mindy Moore, from Texas School for the Deaf in Austin taught the youth yoga exercise with the videotape and taught storytelling, 1-5 storytelling, A-Z storytelling by using the hand shapes. Mindy and Kathy also taught a skit, "The Magic Gold Fish" by Demi. We had 10 volunteers: interpreters benefiting from the total submersion aspect of the activity; and a Deaf father.

The first four days July 16 to 19 we decided to focus mostly on rehearsing the National Anthem as the Mayor and City of Houston invited our children to perform at the Town Hall Meeting on July 19th. The schedule was:

9:30 AM – 10:30 AM	Yoga	Mindy Moore
To help the children to mediate with the mind and body and to stretch the body.		
10:30 AM – 10:45 AM	Break	
10:45 AM – 11:35 AM	Dance Movement	Kathy Weldon
To help the children practice dance movement from watching the tape of last year performance, the National Anthem		
11:40 AM – 12:30 PM	Body Movement	Jackie Kilpatrick
To help the children to cooperate with the body movement and signing		
12:30 PM – 1:00 PM	Lunch	
(Provided by the USDA Summer Food Service Program for Children)		
1:00 PM – 1:50 PM	Storytelling	Mindy Moore
Break from rehearsing the National Anthem, starting to teach 1-5 storytelling and A-Z hand shapes.		
1:55 PM – 2:45 PM	Act	Jackie Kilpatrick
Continue break from rehearsing, starting to teach mime, games of guessing what it is		
2:45 PM – 3:00 PM	Break	
(Snack period also provided by the USDA Summer Food Service Program for Children)		
3:00 PM – 3:45 PM	Dance / sing-sign	Kathy Weldon
Going back to rehearsing the National Anthem, focus on signing only and then with body movement		
3:45 PM – 4:30 PM	Run thru the National Anthem	all teachers

There were over 500 attendees at Mayor's Town Hall Meeting Thursday, July 19th including 200 Deaf and Hard of Hearing, the largest group who attend the meetings. Many responded with "How cute children were and how amazing children signing and dancing the National Anthem."

After the performance, we adjusted the schedule in order to have more fun activities. The schedule was:

9:30 AM – 10:15 AM	Yoga	Mindy Moore
To help the children mediating with the mind and body and stretching the body.		
10:15 AM – 10:30 AM	Break	
10:30 AM – 11:15 AM	Dance Movement	Kathy Weldon
To help the body and mind coordinate together.		
11:15 AM – 12:00 PM	Juggle, mime, body movement	Jackie Kilpatrick
To help the children express themselves using ASL, body movements and facial expression		
12:00 PM – 12:30 PM	Lunch	
(Provided by the USDA Summer Food Service Program for Children)		
12:30 PM – 1:15 PM	Storytelling	Mindy Moore
To help the children read book and signing, developing 1-5 storytelling and playing A-Z hand shapes.		
1:15 PM – 2:00 PM	Acting	Jackie Kilpatrick
To help the children express their creativity using body sox movement, mime, hand shapes stories in ABC and rhythm.		
2:00 PM – 2:15 PM	Break	
(Snack period also provided by the USDA Summer Food Service Program for Children)		
2:15 PM – 3:00 PM	Dance Movement	Kathy Weldon
To help the children freeing themselves in dance disco, jazzing, and rap.		
3:00 PM – 3:45 PM	ARTS	all teachers
Painted the colors on children's hands and pressed on the paper, draw the children's body over the paper and playing with different creative colors and shapes.		
3:45 PM – 4:30 PM	Run thru	all teachers
Choose the best parts of two weeks activities that children could do the best and do the performance. (Picked two skits, storytelling (1-5 and A-Z, both in hand shapes), dance and mime/juggle)		

Wednesday morning, July 25th, five kids performed the Handshape Stories A-Z and 1-5 to the Deaf Senior Citizens' bi-monthly meeting at MMSC. About 30 citizens were there.
Pedro Solis gave four short stories to the kids during the activity, July 20th and July 27th.
The attendees at the LHTA Performance Saturday, July 28 were 46.

UNANTICIPATED BENEFITS:

1. The USDA Summer Food Service Program provided FREE lunches and snacks for the children.
2. The Media class taped the children during the day so that we will have library archives of the events and also taped the performance.
3. Federation of Houston Professional Women Educational Foundation supported on activity t-shirts, costumes and supplies.

COMMENTS:

With the Rappoport Grant not materializing, we did not have funds to completely support the activity. We were not able to hire an Activity Coordinator, and thus did not have enough manpower to help with recruiting participants, outreach to schools, and contacting parents. We sent letters to last year's participants, emailed and made calls to parents who stated an interested. A presentation package was sent to Humble ISD including a video from last year's activity, follow up calls were made to Humble, but no one from that school district participated. The small number of participants to complete the two weeks did allow for more individualized attention.

GOAL 2: Media Classes
TOTAL PARTICIPATION – Two sessions = 55
Criteria/Year III = 12 Status Year to Date = 458% of Goal reached.

EVALUATION:
After the success of the first talk show that aired in September, the end of the second year, the students met and decided to try to air regular programming. The name developed for the televised community forum was Ear News.

The programs the students developed were: How to Use and Interpreter: a Consumer's Perspective; Accessible Events in and Around Houston; Self Help for Hard of Hearing People, an Interview with Tim Creagan; Wild Zappers Interview; Wild Zappers, Live in Houston.
In the final year the students' focus was on advance techniques in the studio, lice television production, advanced editing techniques and systems, and using an Electronic Field Production Kit (EFP Kit) for the Wild Zappers, Live in Houston videography.

Students had several opportunities to put into practice what they learned in class. In addition to Ear News, they worked on shooting Hands On: ASL Creative Storytelling rehearsal and performance in April. April 20th students filmed the performance of the Hands On: ASL Storytelling independently without the instructor's help. Four cameras were used; and the students checked out the equipment from HMS, set-up and struck independently. April 22nd students filmed the performance at Bayou Bend independently. Only two cameras were used. May 5th students did their first independent studio work with the taping of Lucy Dove and edit of the studio tape to send a polished presentation. Five people volunteered, but only two filmed LHTA performance on July 28th. Three cameras and a mic system were used. September 9th was an Interview with Ann Marie Bryan, live talk show with live phone-in.

COMMENTS:
Despite our efforts to move the show times and class meetings days and times, maintaining a steady production schedule was daunting. Projects that the class worked on but were unable to complete included Texas Service and Hearing Dogs and the State Telecommunications Access Program. Numbers vary from week to week, but we have between 4 and 12 students, and others for special projects. Classes moved to Houston MediaSource's facilities, allowing us to focus on more advance technique and using more advanced equipment. After the Allison Tropical Storm, the students began to disappear or didn't show up for Ear News. Over the three years, policies of Houston MediaSource had considerable changes, and required our organization to take a more active role in the production and technical aspects of our programs.

GOAL 3: $1 MOVIE NIGHTS
TOTAL PARTICIPATION – 12 EVENTS = 588
Criteria/Year III = 600 Status Year to Date = 98% of Goal reached.

EVALUATION:

October 6, 2000 – *Bernard Bragg Series*, continuing the story from last February. The magical enthusiasm of a Deaf man whose achievements represent a triumph of human will and spirit. Based on his autobiography, "Lessons in Laughter."

Evaluation: Rating from good to excellent. They enjoyed a lot with Bernard Bragg.

November 3, 2000 – *Farewell My Lovely* & *In the Grove*. National Theatre of the Deaf historical performances in Communist China and South Africa will be the topic of discussion. Presented by Susan Jackson, who toured with the company and will offer slide show presentation of her experiences.

Evaluation: The attendance was very small due to the weather and parking difficulties due to Early Voting. The rating was good to excellent. Most were little disappointed in the quality of movie, but enjoyed mostly with the presenter of Susan who showed pictures of her tour.

December 8, 2000 – *Magic Pasta Pot, Little Hands Theatre Activity, Deaf Talk Show* & Student Performance from Classes. The future of Deaf theatre – new artists was showcased with these three films produced locally in Houston by students in the OPTICA programs! Extra was a live performance from students in OPTICA Acting & Craft Workshop.

Evaluation: Rating from good to excellent. Some said that we need to improve our camera coordination, audio, etc. It was very true since everything was new to us with classes OPTICA offered.

January 19, 2001 – *Bernard Bragg Series*, last two parts continued from February and October 2000. The magical enthusiasm of a Deaf man whose achievements represent a triumph of human will and spirit. Based on his autobiography, Lessons in Laughter.

Evaluation: Rating from good to excellent. They want more signed movies, but we continue seek for and we had shown most of them thru 2 years upon now.

February 16, 2001 – *Little Hands Theatre Activity, Deaf Talk Show*. The futures of Deaf theatre – new artists were showcased with these three films produced locally in Houston by students in the OPTICA programs! Extra was a live performance from students in OPTICA Acting & Craft Workshop. These movies showed on that night as there were not enough time to show all of the movies on December 8, 2000.

Evaluation: Rating from good to excellent. They emphasized wanting more signed movies including comedy, and we continue seek for more movie like that.

March 16, 2001 – *In the Land of the Deaf*, more than documentary, a must for any film buff … Deafness merely happens to be the subject of this extraordinary documentary. Sensitive and unobtrusive, good camera work, wonderful rhythm, great story telling, sense of humor, no axe to grind and thus all the more moving. Subtitle.

Evaluation: Rating from good to excellent. They want more signed movies, but we continue seek for and we had shown most of them thru 2 years upon now.

April 20, 2001 – *Tomorrow Dad Will Still Be Deaf* and *Special Bonus Performance* by the students of Hands On: ASL Creative Storytelling.

Evaluation: Rating from good to excellent. They emphasized wanting more signed movies including comedy. Staff has already begun investing in a substantial library of ASL storytelling videos in response to audience requests.

May 18, 2001 – No movie that night, but did show the World Premiere of the Little Monster video recently made by the Wild Zappers as Disney Studios. We had two performances on Friday and Saturday. Both Friday and Saturday attendees at the performances were 210. We had workshop on Saturday and had 42 participants.

Evaluation: Written evaluations were not circulated, though audience feedback was positive.

June 15, 2001 – *Bill Ennis, Deaf Storyteller* (one of 7 library tapes from Sign Media, Inc.)

Evaluation: Rating mostly excellent. They enjoyed so much and wanted more of similar storytelling including comedy. They still requested for more live play which was very difficult to provide in every monthly movie.

July 20, 2001 – Another no movie on that night again as we have two-week event, Little Hands Theatre Activity Day Camp. We are giving the wrap-up performance by the children on Saturday, July 28th at 10 AM that will open to the public and children's parents and friends.

August 17, 2001 – *Mary Beth Miller, Deaf Storyteller* (one of 7 library tapes from Sign Media, Inc.)

Evaluation: Rating mostly excellent. They loved it so much as Mary Beth was comedian. They wanted more of similar storytelling including original.

September 8 & 9, 2001 – Spotlight: Deaf Filmmakers Festival collaborated with Aurora Picture Show. There were 8 short films by 8 Deaf filmmakers on Saturday and one 90-min documentary by Ann Marie "Jade" Bryan as our guest from New York City on Sunday.

The 8 short films: "To Have/ To Find," 1991, Susan Dupor, animation, 4 min.
"One in Many," 2000, Gene Mirus, documentary, 6 min.
"Dear Joan," 1999, Stephanie Gray, experimental, 3.5 min.
"Someone She Loved," 1995, Dawn Skwersky, dramatic narrative, 13 min.
"Portrait of A Deaf Irish-American: Terrence J. O'Rourke," David H. Pierce, documentary, 8 min.
"Cutting the Edge of a Free Bird," Ann Marie Bryan, narrative, 15 min.
"Escape to Port Aransas," David H. Pierce, comic documentary, 10 min.
"Shadow of Fear," 2001, Katie Murch, student video, 15 min.

Evaluation: We had opening panel with the audience after each event and the events rated very excellent. They want it to become the annual Deaf Filmmakers Festival here in Houston. Chicago Institute for the Moving Image sent two representatives here, as they would have their Festival of Cinema for the Deaf in Chicago, March 1-4, 2002. We had a reporter from Silent News and three filmmakers (Gene Mirus, David H. Pierce and Katie Murch) who live in area of Texas.

COMMENTS:

We are definitely doing the Spotlight Deaf Filmmakers Festival with Aurora Picture Show annually as we submit our proposal to Texas Council of the Arts. We have a committee who will focus on this event in September 2002.

GOAL 4: ASL Performances
TOTAL PARTICIPATION = 51
TOTAL COMMUNITY PATRONS: 1900
Criteria/Year III = 30 participants Status Year to Date = 170% of Goal reached.
300 attendees Status Year to Date = 633% of Goal reached.

EVALUATION:
Performances:

1. The play, *Lucy Dove* by Janice M. Del Negro showed on December 8, 2000. The evaluation was excellent and audience response was positive though there was small audience.
2. The collaboration of the movie night and performance showed on April 20, 2001.
3. Two new mentee performed Story Hour at Bayou Bend April 22nd.
4. Our first annual mother/daughter celebration presented ASL Story Hour at MMSC April 28. The performance featured three mother/daughter teams: one child and grandchild of Deaf Adults; one Deaf child and a hearing mother, and on Deaf mother and Hearing child.
5. One professional performer and one mentee performed Story Hour at Bayou Bend May 20th.
6. Pedro Solis (former student) and Jill Beebout presented ASL Story Hour at MMSC June 23.
7. Pedro Solis (former student) and Jill Beebout performed Story Hour twice at Little Hands Theatre Activity, July 20 and July 27.
8. Our new Hands Held Tales, formerly ASL Story Hour launched the new season performance every month and two performers (one former student storyteller) performed at Immanuel Temple in the afternoon, Sept. 8th.
9. One professional performer and one mentee performed Story Hour at Bayou Bend September 16th.

COMMENTS:
Hands Held Tales continues to grow as we get some new storytellers and the attendee are growing, too. We plan to expand it widely more and contact the school districts.

Goal 5: Create Total Accommodation Cultural Access Tapes
TOTAL PARTICIPANTS = 24 Status Year to Date = 41.6% of Goal reached.
Audience: Approximately 40,000 Households

COMMENTS:
Media students were assigned to produce one 30-second PSA each. None turned in their PSA's for airing on the channel.

Goal 6: The Opening Doors to Art/Culture/Heritage Options

COMMENTS:
We continue to perform at the Museum Fine of Arts' Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens Family Day, and Illuminations' Hand Held Tales (ASL Story Hour), both open to the public. For the new season we forged new alliances with Central Market and the ASL Social, adding two performances every month. With the new season we also began collaborating with Children's Museum of Houston, the first performance was Nov. 25 & 26, 2001.

Goal 7: Television Program
TOTAL PARTICIPATION – 37
Criteria/Year III = 24 **Status Year to Date = 154% of Goal reached.**
Audience: Approximately 280,000 Households

EVALUATION:
The average number of household to watch the program is 40,000.

In November, we had 19 participants working on the Ear News Show called "Using an Interpreter: A Consumer's Perspective". This was an exceptional program and participants included:

- Deaf Assistant Technical Director in the control room
- Three HOH cameramen/women
- A bi-lingual (hearing and signing) Floor Director
- A Deaf Host
- A Deaf Guest
- A HOH Guest
- Four interpreters: one in the control room; two sign-to-voice for the Host and the Deaf guest; and one voice-to-sign for the Hearing and Hard of Hearing guest.

In December, 2000 and January 2001, the December Ear News, an interview with Cindy Colvin, hosted by Marie Decuire had been holding up because of the holidays and waited for 2001. They learned editing the December Ear News Show "Accessible Events In and Around Houston in 2001." We still have not aired this due to problem of captioned.
February 12, 2001 – We had an "Illuminations Day" that showed all day.
February 16, 2001 – We showed November talk show at Classic Movie Night.
In March, we have interviewing through the phone that was new experiment we tried "Interview with Tim Creagan, Pubic Relation with Self-Help Hard of Hearing (SHHH)".
May was Ear News of "Wild Zappers." This was a ground breaking Ear News in that it was the first time the entire cast and crew with the exception of one, the floor manager, were Deaf or Hard of Hearing. Seven OPTICA students were involved in the following positions: Technical Director, Floor Director, Camera 1, Camera 2, Camera 3, Sound mixer, and Host.
OPTICA students, using an Electronic Field Production kit with assistance from Houston MediaSource, filmed the entire performance to produce a near professional quality taping of Wild Zappers: Live in Houston.
September 2001, our Ear News started at 8:30 AM (at Houston MediaSource) to air live talk show interviewing our guest artist, Ann Marie "Jade" Bryan. The technical at HMS had a lot of problems causing a delay in start until 10:30 AM. We continued the show for the full hour, and plan to edit with clips for showing at a later date. We had a total of 10 people involved, including one newly trained camera operator. Ira Hendon, III host the show.

COMMENTS:
The third year goal has been responding with few more calls. Some made complaints to Houston MediaSource, Cable and Illuminations that they wouldn't get that channel. They wanted to watch our Ear News every month.
The people who watched our program made some comments on it such as encouraging us to continue improve the technical with camera, sound, captioning, signing, etc.

Goal 8: OPTICA Dissemination of Product
Participants: 3 Years = 28 233.3% Goal reached

EVALUATION:

Tapes: Magic Pasta Pot 1
Story Hour 6
Mars 2030 1
Little Hands 2
Lucy Dove 2
November Talk Show: Using an Interpreter: A Consumer's Perspective
February Talk Show: Accessible Events In and Around Houston in 2001
March Talk Show: Self Help for Hard of Hearing People: An Interview with Tim Creagan
May Talk Show: Wild Zappers
Wild Zappers: Live in Houston (work in progress for final edit)
Little Hands Theatre Activity 2001

COMMENTS:

Master tapes were made of all programs and are available for showing on the Houston Media Source Channel with the exception of works in progress. Widespread dissemination of product has not occurred pending legal and copyright issues. The last year of Little Hands Theatre Activity is still edited as well as for Wild Zappers Performance. The February Talk Show never aired, because there was no caption due to technical problems. March Talk Show aired, but we didn't have a tape, as it was hold up for some personal conflicts of HMS Staff.

The program evaluations and fiscal management report were compiled and verified by Susan Jackson, Project Director (713) 529-6909 TTY – January 31, 2002.

OPTICA End of Year Program Evaluation Report

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(formerly the Acting and Production Classes)
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EVALUATION:
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With the Rappoport Grant not materializing, we did not have funds to completely support the activity. We were not able to hire an Activity Coordinator, and thus did not have enough manpower to help with recruiting participants, outreach to schools, and contacting parents. We sent letters to last year's participants, emailed and made calls to parents who stated an interested. A presentation package was sent to Humble ISD including a video from last year's activity, follow up calls were made to Humble, but no one from that school district participated. The small number of participants to complete the two weeks did allow for more individualized attention.

GOAL 2: Media Classes
TOTAL PARTICIPATION – Two sessions = 55
Criteria/Year III = 12 Status Year to Date = 458% of Goal reached.

EVALUATION:

After the success of the first talk show that aired in September, the end of the second year, the students met and decided to try to air regular programming. The name developed for the televised community forum was Ear News.

The programs the students developed were: How to Use and Interpreter: a Consumer's Perspective; Accessible Events in and Around Houston; Self Help for Hard of Hearing People, an Interview with Tim Creagan; Wild Zappers Interview; Wild Zappers, Live in Houston.
In the final year the students' focus was on advance techniques in the studio, lice television production, advanced editing techniques and systems, and using an Electronic Field Production Kit (EFP Kit) for the Wild Zappers, Live in Houston videography.

Students had several opportunities to put into practice what they learned in class. In addition to Ear News, they worked on shooting Hands On: ASL Creative Storytelling rehearsal and performance in April. April 20th students filmed the performance of the Hands On: ASL Storytelling independently without the instructor's help. Four cameras were used; and the students checked out the equipment from HMS, set-up and struck independently. April 22nd students filmed the performance at Bayou Bend independently. Only two cameras were used. May 5th students did their first independent studio work with the taping of Lucy Dove and edit of the studio tape to send a polished presentation. Five people volunteered, but only two filmed LHTA performance on July 28th. Three cameras and a mic system were used. September 9th was an Interview with Ann Marie Bryan, live talk show with live phone-in.

COMMENTS:

Despite our efforts to move the show times and class meetings days and times, maintaining a steady production schedule was daunting. Projects that the class worked on but were unable to complete included Texas Service and Hearing Dogs and the State Telecommunications Access Program. Numbers vary from week to week, but we have between 4 and 12 students, and others for special projects. Classes moved to Houston MediaSource's facilities, allowing us to focus on more advance technique and using more advanced equipment. After the Allison Tropical Storm, the students began to disappear or didn't show up for Ear News. Over the three years, policies of Houston MediaSource had considerable changes, and required our organization to take a more active role in the production and technical aspects of our programs.

GOAL 3: $1 MOVIE NIGHTS
TOTAL PARTICIPATION – 12 EVENTS = 588
Criteria/Year III = 600 Status Year to Date = 98% of Goal reached.

EVALUATION:

October 6, 2000 – *Bernard Bragg Series*, continuing the story from last February. The magical enthusiasm of a Deaf man whose achievements represent a triumph of human will and spirit. Based on his autobiography, "Lessons in Laughter."

Evaluation: Rating from good to excellent. They enjoyed a lot with Bernard Bragg.

November 3, 2000 – *Farewell My Lovely* & *In the Grove*. National Theatre of the Deaf historical performances in Communist China and South Africa will be the topic of discussion. Presented by Susan Jackson, who toured with the company and will offer slide show presentation of her experiences.

Evaluation: The attendance was very small due to the weather and parking difficulties due to Early Voting. The rating was good to excellent. Most were little disappointed in the quality of movie, but enjoyed mostly with the presenter of Susan who showed pictures of her tour.

December 8, 2000 – *Magic Pasta Pot*, *Little Hands Theatre Activity*, *Deaf Talk Show* & Student Performance from Classes. The future of Deaf theatre – new artists was showcased with these three films produced locally in Houston by students in the OPTICA programs! Extra was a live performance from students in OPTICA Acting & Craft Workshop.

Evaluation: Rating from good to excellent. Some said that we need to improve our camera coordination, audio, etc. It was very true since everything was new to us with classes OPTICA offered.

January 19, 2001 – *Bernard Bragg Series*, last two parts continued from February and October 2000. The magical enthusiasm of a Deaf man whose achievements represent a triumph of human will and spirit. Based on his autobiography, Lessons in Laughter.

Evaluation: Rating from good to excellent. They want more signed movies, but we continue seek for and we had shown most of them thru 2 years upon now.

February 16, 2001 – *Little Hands Theatre Activity*, *Deaf Talk Show*. The futures of Deaf theatre – new artists were showcased with these three films produced locally in Houston by students in the OPTICA programs! Extra was a live performance from students in OPTICA Acting & Craft Workshop. These movies showed on that night as there were not enough time to show all of the movies on December 8, 2000.

Evaluation: Rating from good to excellent. They emphasized wanting more signed movies including comedy, and we continue seek for more movie like that.

March 16, 2001 – *In the Land of the Deaf*, more than documentary, a must for any film buff … Deafness merely happens to be the subject of this extraordinary documentary. Sensitive and unobtrusive, good camera work, wonderful rhythm, great story telling, sense of humor, no axe to grind and thus all the more moving. Subtitle.

Evaluation: Rating from good to excellent. They want more signed movies, but we continue seek for and we had shown most of them thru 2 years upon now.

April 20, 2001 – *Tomorrow Dad Will Still Be Deaf* and *Special Bonus Performance* by the students of Hands On: ASL Creative Storytelling.

Evaluation: Rating from good to excellent. They emphasized wanting more signed movies including comedy. Staff has already begun investing in a substantial library of ASL storytelling videos in response to audience requests.

May 18, 2001 – No movie that night, but did show the World Premiere of the Little Monster video recently made by the Wild Zappers as Disney Studios. We had two performances on Friday and Saturday. Both Friday and Saturday attendees at the performances were 210. We had workshop on Saturday and had 42 participants.

Evaluation: Written evaluations were not circulated, though audience feedback was positive.

June 15, 2001 – *Bill Ennis, Deaf Storyteller* (one of 7 library tapes from Sign Media, Inc.)

Evaluation: Rating mostly excellent. They enjoyed so much and wanted more of similar storytelling including comedy. They still requested for more live play which was very difficult to provide in every monthly movie.

July 20, 2001 – Another no movie on that night again as we have two-week event, Little Hands Theatre Activity Day Camp. We are giving the wrap-up performance by the children on Saturday, July 28th at 10 AM that will open to the public and children's parents and friends.

August 17, 2001 – *Mary Beth Miller, Deaf Storyteller* (one of 7 library tapes from Sign Media, Inc.)

Evaluation: Rating mostly excellent. They loved it so much as Mary Beth was comedian. They wanted more of similar storytelling including original.

September 8 & 9, 2001 – Spotlight: Deaf Filmmakers Festival collaborated with Aurora Picture Show. There were 8 short films by 8 Deaf filmmakers on Saturday and one 90-min documentary by Ann Marie "Jade" Bryan as our guest from New York City on Sunday.

The 8 short films: "To Have/ To Find," 1991, Susan Dupor, animation, 4 min.
"One in Many," 2000, Gene Mirus, documentary, 6 min.
"Dear Joan," 1999, Stephanie Gray, experimental, 3.5 min.
"Someone She Loved," 1995, Dawn Skwersky, dramatic narrative, 13 min.
"Portrait of A Deaf Irish-American: Terrence J. O'Rourke," David H. Pierce, documentary, 8 min.
"Cutting the Edge of a Free Bird," Ann Marie Bryan, narrative, 15 min.
"Escape to Port Aransas," David H. Pierce, comic documentary, 10 min.
"Shadow of Fear," 2001, Katie Murch, student video, 15 min.

Evaluation: We had opening panel with the audience after each event and the events rated very excellent. They want it to become the annual Deaf Filmmakers Festival here in Houston. Chicago Institute for the Moving Image sent two representatives here, as they would have their Festival of Cinema for the Deaf in Chicago, March 1-4, 2002. We had a reporter from Silent News and three filmmakers (Gene Mirus, David H. Pierce and Katie Murch) who live in area of Texas.

COMMENTS:

We are definitely doing the Spotlight Deaf Filmmakers Festival with Aurora Picture Show annually as we submit our proposal to Texas Council of the Arts. We have a committee who will focus on this event in September 2002.

GOAL 4: ASL Performances
TOTAL PARTICIPATION = 51
TOTAL COMMUNITY PATRONS: 1900
Criteria/Year III = 30 participants Status Year to Date = 170% of Goal reached.
300 attendees Status Year to Date = 633% of Goal reached.

EVALUATION:
Performances:

1. The play, *Lucy Dove* by Janice M. Del Negro showed on December 8, 2000. The evaluation was excellent and audience response was positive though there was small audience.
2. The collaboration of the movie night and performance showed on April 20, 2001.
3. Two new mentee performed Story Hour at Bayou Bend April 22nd.
4. Our first annual mother/daughter celebration presented ASL Story Hour at MMSC April 28. The performance featured three mother/daughter teams: one child and grandchild of Deaf Adults; one Deaf child and a hearing mother, and on Deaf mother and Hearing child.
5. One professional performer and one mentee performed Story Hour at Bayou Bend May 20th.
6. Pedro Solis (former student) and Jill Beebout presented ASL Story Hour at MMSC June 23.
7. Pedro Solis (former student) and Jill Beebout performed Story Hour twice at Little Hands Theatre Activity, July 20 and July 27.
8. Our new Hands Held Tales, formerly ASL Story Hour launched the new season performance every month and two performers (one former student storyteller) performed at Immanuel Temple in the afternoon, Sept. 8th.
9. One professional performer and one mentee performed Story Hour at Bayou Bend September 16th.

COMMENTS:
Hands Held Tales continues to grow as we get some new storytellers and the attendee are growing, too. We plan to expand it widely more and contact the school districts.

Goal 5: Create Total Accommodation Cultural Access Tapes
TOTAL PARTICIPANTS = 24 Status Year to Date = 41.6% of Goal reached.
Audience: Approximately 40,000 Households

COMMENTS:
Media students were assigned to produce one 30-second PSA each. None turned in their PSA's for airing on the channel.

Goal 6: The Opening Doors to Art/Culture/Heritage Options

COMMENTS:
We continue to perform at the Museum Fine of Arts' Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens Family Day, and Illuminations' Hand Held Tales (ASL Story Hour), both open to the public. For the new season we forged new alliances with Central Market and the ASL Social, adding two performances every month. With the new season we also began collaborating with Children's Museum of Houston, the first performance was Nov. 25 & 26, 2001.

Goal 7: Television Program
TOTAL PARTICIPATION – 37
Criteria/Year III = 24 Status Year to Date = 154% of Goal reached.
Audience: Approximately 280,000 Households

EVALUATION:
The average number of household to watch the program is 40,000.

In November, we had 19 participants working on the Ear News Show called "Using an Interpreter: A Consumer's Perspective". This was an exceptional program and participants included:

- Deaf Assistant Technical Director in the control room
- Three HOH cameramen/women
- A bi-lingual (hearing and signing) Floor Director
- A Deaf Host
- A Deaf Guest
- A HOH Guest
- Four interpreters: one in the control room; two sign-to-voice for the Host and the Deaf guest; and one voice-to-sign for the Hearing and Hard of Hearing guest.

In December, 2000 and January 2001, the December Ear News, an interview with Cindy Colvin, hosted by Marie Decuire had been holding up because of the holidays and waited for 2001. They learned editing the December Ear News Show "Accessible Events In and Around Houston in 2001." We still have not aired this due to problem of captioned.
February 12, 2001 – We had an "Illuminations Day" that showed all day.
February 16, 2001 – We showed November talk show at Classic Movie Night.
In March, we have interviewing through the phone that was new experiment we tried "Interview with Tim Creagan, Pubic Relation with Self-Help Hard of Hearing (SHHH)".
May was Ear News of "Wild Zappers." This was a ground breaking Ear News in that it was the first time the entire cast and crew with the exception of one, the floor manager, were Deaf or Hard of Hearing. Seven OPTICA students were involved in the following positions: Technical Director, Floor Director, Camera 1, Camera 2, Camera 3, Sound mixer, and Host.
OPTICA students, using an Electronic Field Production kit with assistance from Houston MediaSource, filmed the entire performance to produce a near professional quality taping of Wild Zappers: Live in Houston.
September 2001, our Ear News started at 8:30 AM (at Houston MediaSource) to air live talk show interviewing our guest artist, Ann Marie "Jade" Bryan. The technical at HMS had a lot of problems causing a delay in start until 10:30 AM. We continued the show for the full hour, and plan to edit with clips for showing at a later date. We had a total of 10 people involved, including one newly trained camera operator. Ira Hendon, III host the show.

COMMENTS:
The third year goal has been responding with few more calls. Some made complaints to Houston MediaSource, Cable and Illuminations that they wouldn't get that channel. They wanted to watch our Ear News every month.
The people who watched our program made some comments on it such as encouraging us to continue improve the technical with camera, sound, captioning, signing, etc.

Goal 8: OPTICA Dissemination of Product
Participants: 3 Years = 28 233.3% Goal reached

EVALUATION:

Tapes: Magic Pasta Pot 1
Story Hour 6
Mars 2030 1
Little Hands 2
Lucy Dove 2
November Talk Show: Using an Interpreter: A Consumer's Perspective
February Talk Show: Accessible Events In and Around Houston in 2001
March Talk Show: Self Help for Hard of Hearing People: An Interview with Tim Creagan
May Talk Show: Wild Zappers
Wild Zappers: Live in Houston (work in progress for final edit)
Little Hands Theatre Activity 2001

COMMENTS:

Master tapes were made of all programs and are available for showing on the Houston Media Source Channel with the exception of works in progress. Widespread dissemination of product has not occurred pending legal and copyright issues. The last year of Little Hands Theatre Activity is still edited as well as for Wild Zappers Performance. The February Talk Show never aired, because there was no caption due to technical problems. March Talk Show aired, but we didn't have a tape, as it was hold up for some personal conflicts of HMS Staff.

The program evaluations and fiscal management report were compiled and verified by Susan Jackson, Project Director (713) 529-6909 TTY – January 31, 2002.

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